

**[0083] ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE**

**[0084]** A network device that controls the communication of data frames between stations includes receive ports that receive data frames from the stations. The network device also includes a memory that stores address information and data forwarding information associated with the received data frames. The network device further includes processing logic that processes and forwards the received data frames in accordance with one of two protocols. In accordance with a first protocol, the network device forwards the data frames to their destinations without modifying the respective data frames. In accordance with a second protocol, the network device may modify the data frames before forwarding the data frames to their respective destinations.